L05 JAPAN 226C – INTRODUCTION TO JAPANESE CIVILIZATION
Duncker 101, MWF 1:00-1:50pm

Instructor: Quillon Arkenstorne (qarkenstone@wustl.edu)
Office: January Hall 204
Office hours: MWF 11:00am-12:00pm or by appointment

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Course Description:
This course will examine the development of Japanese civilization from antiquity to the present. The first half of the semester will provide an overview of Japanese developmental and cultural history, focusing on the interplay of religion, society and the arts. Special attention will also be given to social change and the evolving representation of Japan, particularly in distinction to China and the West. Topics to consider will be influences from the Asian continent, the development of poetic sensibility, and the rise of a military culture. The second half of the semester will examine aspects of contemporary Japanese society such as economy, gender, education, popular culture, etc. Recommended for Japanese majors. PREREQ: NONE.

Required Texts:
Other readings will be provided by instructor.

Grading:

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<th>Component</th>
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<tr>
<td>Questions/Lecture Attendance</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Writing Project</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<td>Midterm Examination</td>
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<td>Final Examination</td>
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Students taking the course P/F of CR/NCR must achieve 70% to pass.

Questions/Lecture Attendance. Lectures will amplify and elucidate the required readings. Regular attendance is strongly encouraged. Short questions will be assigned on most (but not every) Friday to accompany the scheduled readings. Answers must be printed out and turned in the following Monday. Late submissions will not be accepted. Email submissions will not be accepted. Answers will be graded on a scale of 1-5.

Final Writing Project. There will be a final writing project, an eight-page annotated bibliography, due on December 6. An annotated bibliography is a list of the sources that you would use—if you were writing a paper—each accompanied by a brief evaluative and informative description. Your bibliography will focus on a single topic related to some aspect of Japanese society and culture (traditional or modern). Students will be given a list of appropriate topics. If you wish to select something not on the list, you must have it approved by me in advance. In general, your project will cover a selection of books, articles, and websites and will include six pages of annotation and a two-page overview of the topic under discussion. Your bibliography will be graded on 1) the approach you take to your topic (the kinds of questions you plan to
explore); 2) the thoroughness of the research; 3) accuracy of citations; 4) the quality of your annotations; and 5) the thoughtfulness of your overview. More information will be provided after the midterm.

**Midterm and Final.** The Midterm will be on October 4. The Final will be on December 18.

**Please note:**
1. All electronic devices (including phones) must be shut off during class.
2. Please be in class on-time—if you will have trouble doing so, let me know in advance.
3. No eating in class—covered drinks are allowed.
4. Familiarize yourself with the academic integrity expectations. It is your responsibility to follow them:

https://wustl.edu/about/compliance-policies/academic-policies/undergraduate-student-academic-integrity-policy/

**Weekly Schedule**¹
(Readings are to be completed by the date listed)

08/26 – Course introduction
08/28 – Japan before “Japan:” Jōmon/Yayoi (Henshall 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4)
08/30 – The early state emerges: Kofun/ヤマト (Earliest Accounts of Japan, Henshall 1.5)

09/02 – **Labor Day – no class**
09/04 – Learning from China: the Nara Period (Kojiki, Nara Buddhism, Henshall 2.1)
09/06 – Nara culture (Manyōshū) and politics (Shōtoku)

09/09 – The Heian Period (Henshall 2.2, Kokinshū)
09/11 – Heian aesthetics (The Tale of Genji – Yūgao)
09/13 – End of Heian, Rise of Samurai/Genpei War (The Tale of the Heike)

09/16 – The Kamakura Period (Henshall 2.3, Hōjōki)
09/18 – Warring States, Southern Barbarians (Henshall 2.4, Atsumori)
09/20 – Reunification (Arrival of the Portuguese, Henshall 2.5)

09/23 – The foundations of the Tokugawa order (Henshall 3.1)
09/25 – Tokugawa ideology (Henshall 3.2, Chūshingura)
09/27 – Rise of the chōnin (Henshall 3.3, Love Suicides at Sonezaki)

09/30 – Bakumatsu (Henshall 3.4; Wilhelm Heine, “With Perry to Japan”)
10/02 – Thomas Smith, “Japan’s Aristocratic Revolution,” Review
10/04 – **Midterm Exam**

10/07 – Early Meiji (Henshall 4.1, 4.2)
10/09 – Meiji: creating “Japan” (4.3, 4.4, Fukuzawa Yukichi, “Goodbye Asia”)
10/11 – Meiji: building an empire (Henshall 4.5, 4.6, 4.7)

10/14 – **Fall Break – no class**

**Begin thinking about the topic for your annotated bibliography**

¹ Tentative
10/16 – “Greater Taishō:” democracy, war, and economic change (Henshall 5.1)
10/18 – “Ero-guro” nonsense: Culture in the Taishō Period (Ranpo, “Human Chair”)

10/21 – Shōwa: 1930s (Henshall 5.2, 5.3)
10/23 – The Road to War (Henshall 5.4)
10/25 – Daitōa sensō, Taiheiyō senso, and WWII (Henshall 5.5)

10/28 – Postwar Japan: Occupation and Recovery (Henshall 6.1, 6.2, “Pacific Century” video)
10/30 – From Imperial Japan to Japan, Inc. (Routledge 1, 6, Henshall 6.3)
11/01 – Japan as Number 1 and beyond (Henshall 6.4, “Pacific Century” video)

11/04 – Politics in Japan (Henshall 7.2, Routledge 2)
11/06 – Language and Education (Routledge 3, 4)
11/08 – Religion in postwar Japan (Routledge 5)

11/11 –Class and Work (Henshall 7.1, Routledge 8)
11/13 – Gendering Japan (Routledge 9)
11/15 – Queering Japan (Routledge 11)

11/18 – Modern Family in Japan (Routledge 10) **Final Writing Project Draft Due**
11/20 – Minorities and margins in Modern Japan (Routledge 12, 13)
11/22 – Kōreisha: Aging in Japan (Routledge 14)

11/25 – Sports in Modern Japan (Routledge 20)
11/27 –Thanksgiving Break – no class
11/29 –Thanksgiving Break – no class

12/02 – Manga, music and food (Routledge 18, 19, 22)
12/04 – Japan in the world: Rethinking “Japan” (Henshall 7.3, Routledge 21)
12/06 – Conclusion/Wrap **Final Writing Project Due**

12/18 – **Final Exam** (1:00pm – 3:00pm)